सेवाएं प्रदान करती है । इनमें दूरसंचार सम्पर्को की स्थापना,निःशुल्क चिकित्सा जांच,भोजन व्यवस्था,रहने का प्रबंध तथा यात्राके दौरान और तीर्थयात्रा स्थलों पर चिकित्सा सुविधाएं,एंव जहां कहीं आवश्यक हो,तीर्थयात्रियों को सुरक्षा प्रदान करना शामिल हैं ।

Indian Students in Russia

951. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing *ip* the Hindustan Times of April 7, 1998 about the increasing number of Indian nationals who are falling victim to skin head attacks in Moscow and other Rus sian cities;

(b) if so, the details of Government's independent information in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such attacks on Indian expatriates and students in Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) there have recently been around a dozen incidents of intimidation or assault by skinheads involving Indian nationals in Russia. While the degree of injury or verbal abuse has varied, there has been no confirmed report of death or serious injury requiring prolonged hospitalization of Indian nationals, arising out of such incidents. Upon enquiry, media reports of a sharp rise in violent racial attacks against Indians in Russia proved to be exaggerated.

(c) In view of earlier isolated incidents involving Indian nationals, the Embassy of India, Moscow, had even prior to the publication of the "Hindustan Times" article of 7 April 1998 sensitised the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the local Moscow City authorities, and Russian specialised agencies, of our extreme concern over such developments affecting Indian nationals and urged them to intensify measures to ensure the safety of Indian nationals. Such concerns were reiterated at frequent intervals and as a result patrolling around University campuses and around metro stations was increased. Other measures taken to instil confidence m the Indian community included: (i) Establishment of direct contact with Rectors of institutions where Indian students are studying; (ii) Meetings of Embassy officials with representatives of the Indian student and business communities who were urged not to panic, take adequate precautions, move around in groups, immediately register any incident, cooperate with the police, and keep the Embassy fully informed, (iii) Visits by Embassy officials to University hostels where Indian students are concentrated. As a result of the steps taken the number of reported incidents quickly declined, and a sense of calm and security returned within the Indian community.

Development of Food Processing Industries

952. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of different schemes/incentives/programmes etc. undertaken by the Ministry for developing Food Processing Industries in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and the North-Eastern Region, during the preceding five years; and

(b) what have been the achievement levels reached with regard to each?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated several Plan Schemes for promoting development of processed foods in the sectors of Fruits & vegetables processing. Meat & poultry processing. Fisheries etc. in the country. Under these schemes

financial assistance in the form of loan and grant is extended to Non-Governmental Organisations Cooperatives. Public Sector Undertakings and Private Sector Industry etc. These schemes arc project specific and not State Specific.

Details of financial assistance during the period 1992-93 to 1997-98 provided under the Schemes in respect of proposals received from Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and North Eastern Region are given below:

	Rupees in Lakhs
Madhya Pradesh	111.95
Rajasthan	75.00
North Eastern Region	2040.00

Schemes for Processed Food Sector

953. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated some developmental plan schemes for promoting development of processed food sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; scheme-wise;

(c) whether these schemes are under implementation in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formu lated several developmental Plan Schemes for promoting processed food sector in the country. Under these schemes financial assistance in the form of loan and grant is extended to Non-Governmental Organisations Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertak ings, Private Sector Industries etc. for promotion of food processing industries.

(c) and (d) The schemes are project specific and not State specific. However, financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 9.69 crores was extended during the 8th Plan period in respect of proposals received from State of Maharashtra under the schemes pertaining to the Sectors of Fruit & Vegetables Processing, Meat & Poultry Processing and Fisheries.

During the first year of the 9th Plan viz. 1997-98 also financial assistance of approximately Rs. 2.99 crores has been extended in respect of proposals received from Maharashtra in the Fisheries. Hor-ticulture based Industries and Meat & Poultry Sector.

Food Processing Units in Maharashtra

954. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of food processing units operating in the factory sector in Maharashtra at present, district-wise;

(b) what is their annual production in terms of quantity and value;

(c) what incentives are available to these units of the State; and

(d) how the farmers are being benefited from these units in the factory sector of the State?

THE MNISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The results of the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) which covers factory sector conducted by the Central Statistical Organisation of the Department of Statistics are published at State and all India level and * not at district level. A statemnet indicating number of units and gross output for industry group 20-21—manufacturing of food products—for the period 1990-91 to 1994-95 is enclosed (See below)

(c) The Plan Scheme being operated by the Ministry for the development of food processing industries. Provide financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant-in-aid to Non Government Organisations. Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings and Industry including those in the factory sector.